



Prospectus





Welcome to King's College Alicante. I am very proud to be the Headteacher of this wonderful school. It is truly a unique and outstanding institution that offers a rich curriculum and a broad all-round education. When you visit you will be impressed by our warm and purposeful atmosphere, underpinned by the dedication and talent of the staff and the enthusiasm of the students. As well as our focus on the intellectual achievement of each student, we are committed to enhancing their enjoyment and interest in the whole school experience. Staff give freely of their time and we offer a comprehensive programme of sport, music and drama, as well as numerous co-curricular opportunities, trips and visits. Above all, and just as much as any parent, I want our children to thrive and be happy throughout their time with us. My motto 'Excellence in everything we do' resonates across our campus and drives high expectations and standards from everyone in our British international community.

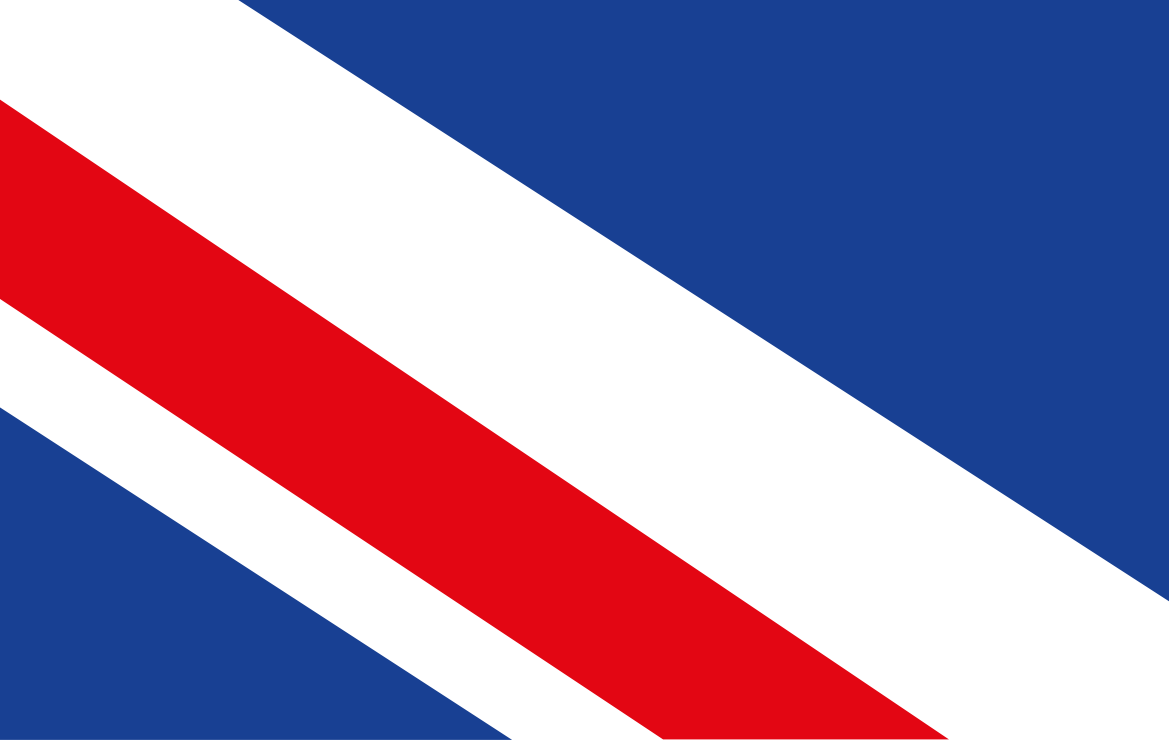
In addition to well maintained buildings and attractive facilities you will see us working together to provide a challenging and engaging learning environment so that each young person has the opportunity to achieve his or her fullest potential. Good relationships are nurtured so that students at all stages are helped as they navigate the challenges from infancy to adolescence thence to early adulthood. King's consistently achieves the finest results and many alumni grace the world's top universities.

This is a school that students and staff want to come to each day. Thanks to our high standards of behaviour, teachers are free to teach and students who are keen to learn are able to do so. As well as academic excellence, we encourage kindness, resilience, creativity, risk taking, personal and physical development, individuality and a spirit of enquiry.

At King's College we are serious about providing all students with the best education possible. Aspirations are high and it is cool to work hard and succeed. We strive tirelessly to turn out decent human beings – future citizens who will be able to make a significant contribution to a tolerant, democratic and liberal society.

Do come and see the school for yourself!

Iain Blaikie, Headteacher



A very British education Since 1969 King's College has been providing children and young people with a rigorous and broad British education. Pupils from King's College continue their studies at some of the most prestigious universities in Europe and North America. A British education gives our alumni the best opportunities to work in challenging and interesting careers all over the world. We believe that the fundamental values that they learn while at King's College will also help them to have happy and fulfilling family lives.



The British way of learning We expect all of our pupils to go to excellent universities. Most of them continue their studies at top universities in the UK and Spain, others go to the United States. All of our pupils leave the college with a sense of confidence in themselves and a clear idea of how they can contribute to society.



Tess joined the school at the age of eight, growing with the school community and immersing herself in all manner of school initiatives including the annual musical. She will pursue her fascination for the Creative Arts by studying 'Digital Film Production' at the SAE Institute in Amsterdam.

In all my years at King's, I have developed a multitude of skills, hobbies and a true passion for the Creative Arts. The annual school musicals gave me the opportunity to be a part of a crew in a professional environment and simultaneously allowed me to learn techniques that I hope to use in my future career. I'll never forget the advice I learned from my teachers "If ever in life you forget your lines - just improvise!"



Pablo started at King's College Alicante at the age of five. As he grew, so did his passion for Science, specifically Physics. His teachers instilled in him a real curiosity to explore and experiment, to question and to discover his own answers. It is this passion for the Sciences that means that when he finalises his studies at school, he will move to Scotland to study Physics at the University of Edinburgh.

At King's, I was able to master my practical skills for Physics and Chemistry thanks to the school's extensive selection of equipment and chemicals. My practical lessons, allowed me to see with my own eyes the many things we researched and learnt about in our text books; ultimately helping me to develop an in-depth understanding and also allowing me to develop my own investigations and experiments.



Dulcie joined the King's community in Year 10 and has been a deeply involved participant in school life ever since. An active member of the School Council and Sixth Form Committee, she has also supported younger cohorts as a School Mentor, and additionally was one of the founders of the KCA school newspaper. Her school studies culminated in her being offered a university place at King's College London, where she looks forward to studying English in the hope it will lead to a creative career in Journalism.

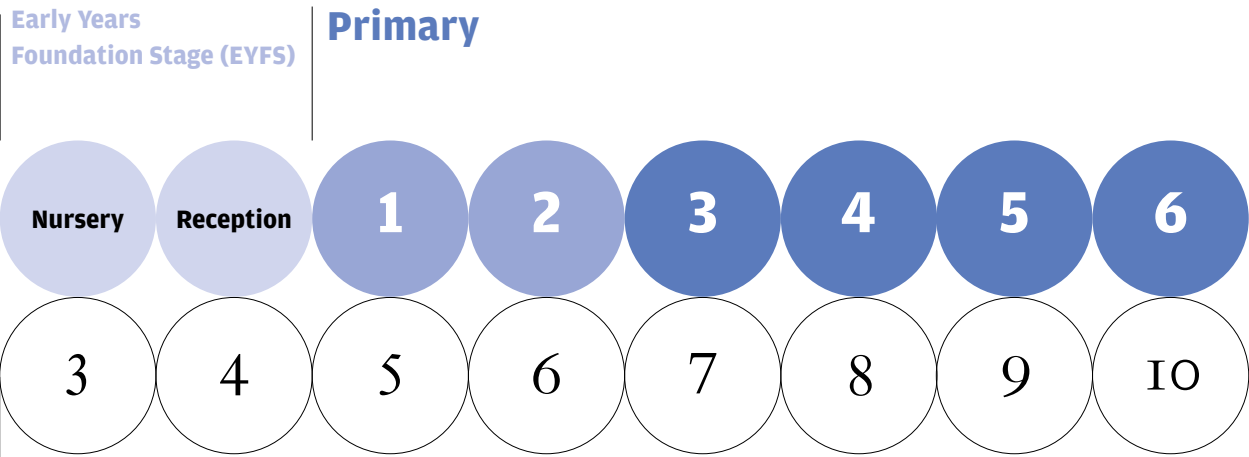
My academic journey became so much more positively dynamic and challenging when I joined King's. Since then, I have benefitted massively from travel opportunities and academic trips that have enhanced not only my studies and understanding, but my worldview, something that I am sure will help me in my future life and career.



Sergio's passion for Mathematics was fueled throughout his time at King's, where he joined aged three (Nursery). As he progressed through school, his teachers have always provided him with opportunity and challenges, in order to stretch his knowledge, as well as providing a safe and friendly learning environment. In his final year of Sixth Form, he received an offer from the University of Cambridge to study Mathematics.

Teachers at King's provide excellent academic and pastoral support, this combination has enabled me, and in fact all my peers, to work to our fullest potential. The best part about the teachers is their wide range of engaging educational methods, highlighted with their creativity to make our lessons fun. It is this unique freedom that teachers have in their classroom that defines King's.

The British System Below, we have outlined your child’s journey through the British educational system. Our objectives are not simply to ensure that your child is bilingual in English and Spanish. A British education creates open-minded, creative and dynamic individuals. Your child will learn from first-hand experience, not just text books. They will be encouraged to be creative in their thinking and they are expected to work hard every day.



Pupil’s age in the January of the school year



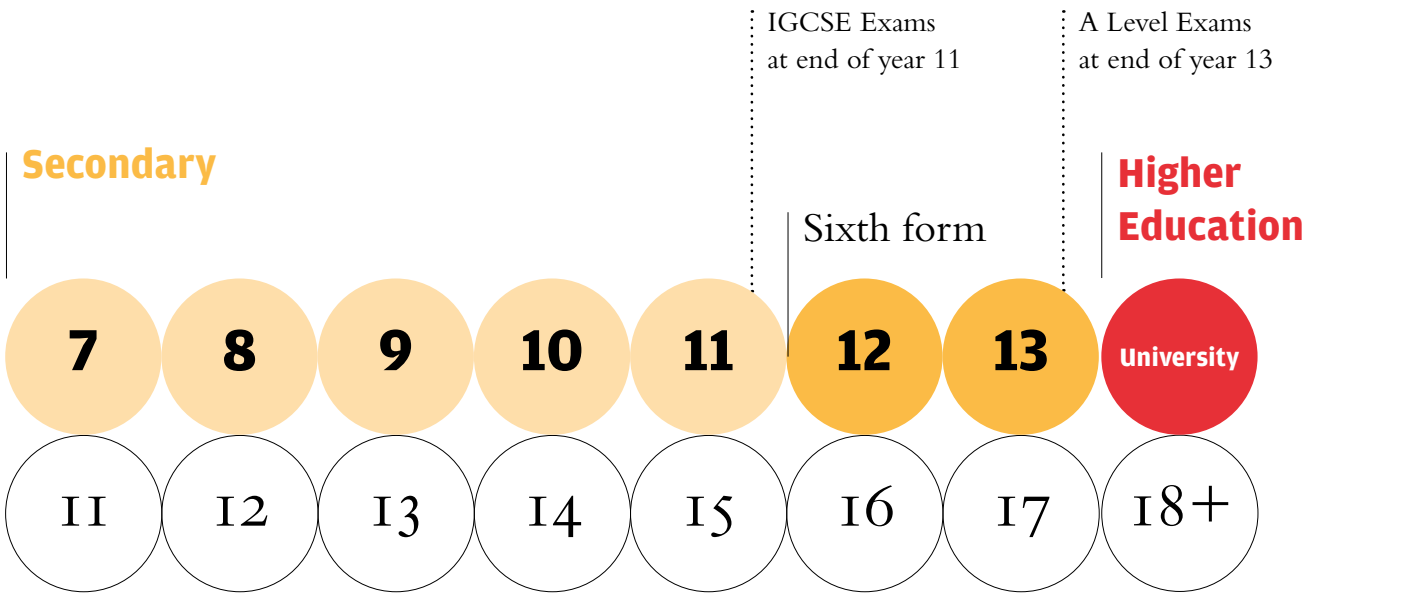
Play to learn
Ages 3 – 5 | Nursery to Reception
Young children learn through exploration. Everything they do, from kicking a ball, building with blocks and painting, to singing in a group, is done in English and it is designed to help them understand their environment. Sometimes it gets messy, but it’s always rewarding and develops them socially, mentally and physically.



Exploration and evaluation
Ages 5 – 7 | School years 1 – 2
A more structured approach to the day helps children to start learning how to read, write and count in English. We still encourage children to explore and play, but they are able to describe their discoveries in words and numbers.



Communicate and articulate
Ages 7 – 11 | School years 3 – 6
Children are naturally curious. In Primary school we encourage them to learn about things that interest them while consolidating their numeracy and literacy skills. We teach children how to apply these basic skills to other subject areas – such as Science, Art and History.



Interrogate and debate
Ages 11 – 16 | School years 7 – 11
As children get older we teach them to think more critically and to work independently. They learn how to investigate, test and think about things rationally. Classes are more focused on formal “subject-based” learning. Eight or nine IGCSE exams are taken at the end of this stage in different subjects.



Think and act
Ages 16 – 18 | School years 12 – 13
The final two years at school mark the beginning of adulthood. Pupils make choices and work hard during these years that prepare them for university and the world of work. Once pupils have finished their IGCSEs they choose three or four A Level exams – which are accepted by universities around the world.



University and beyond
Age 18+
Nearly all King’s pupils go on to university, mostly to Europe (the UK and Spain). Academic success helps guarantee a good career but we also want children who have been to King’s College to become good parents, partners and friends.



Learning

Children learn best when they are active participants in what they are studying. At King's we harness our pupils' natural curiosity and engage them in varied and challenging lessons.

Cross-curricular Teaching: We plan lessons so that children apply their knowledge from more than one subject to a particular theme or topic. This helps children make connections in a very practical way, which allows them to solve problems, think creatively and convert knowledge into understanding.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) the children are encouraged to learn through play; for example, in Nursery one of the topics is 'The Farm'. This involves learning about shapes, counting, listening to stories about animals, singing songs and lots more. This interactive learning process gives children first-hand experience while encouraging them to enjoy learning.

As the children move on to Primary school (ages 6 - 10), we begin to broaden their experience. The children study a particular topic, for example, 'Light and Shadow', and use that topic across a range of subjects, including Science, Maths, History and even Literature. The study of the ancient civilisation of Benin would include History, as well as Art in the African masks and Maths through the geometric patterns in fabrics.

All of our teachers are trained to create lessons that stimulate children to apply ideas from a range of subjects. We know that this helps them to consolidate their learning in their core subjects and to build their intellectual abilities.

As the children move out of Primary school and into Secondary school, the teaching becomes increasingly subject-focused. Children take nine or ten IGCSEs and focus on four A Levels in the 6th Form.

Creative thinking and innovation come from the ability to apply knowledge and learning from many sources to a problem.





Language: We live in a world that depends on communication and collaboration. Being able to communicate fluently in English is very valuable. Being bilingual in Spanish and English is a huge advantage. Add a third or even a fourth language, such as French or German and a whole world of new opportunities opens up.

All our lessons are taught in English. Right from the start in Nursery school, teachers communicate with children in English. Even if your child does not speak English at home, they will quickly start to use the language with increasing confidence.

From age 10 in Primary school, we also offer tuition in other languages. Experience tells us that children who can use two or more languages show improved cognitive abilities that help them make progress in all the subjects that they study.

Other languages we offer older pupils include:

- French
- German
- Chinese
- Valencian

By the time children move into Primary school, they are all reading and writing in English. In Secondary school, those children who speak English as a second language should become more fluent, and the exams they sit in Years 11, 12 and 13 are the same exams that British children take in the UK. Spanish is also taught and pupils can choose to go to university in the UK or Spain.

In our own experience, children who are encouraged by their parents to speak, read and write in English at home make far quicker progress in acquiring fluency.

For children that join King’s College with a lower level of English we offer an ‘Induction English’ programme, that allows them to catch up with their classmates. Similarly, we provide Spanish classes for those pupils who arrive at the school with little or no Spanish. All pupils take the IGCSE exam in Spanish at age 15, a year earlier than their counterparts in British schools.



Mathematics: We believe that anyone can excel and enjoy learning mathematics when taught in an engaging and exciting way. We know that parents want their children to be numerate and we take our role in this very seriously, to give children the tools to approach Maths in ways that inspire and encourage them.

For the young children in the EYFS and for those starting Primary school, we design lessons that introduce mathematical concepts and number relationships that encourage pupils to use numbers with confidence. This is combined with a diligent approach to learning the basics; for example, the times tables.

In Primary school, these concepts are gradually developed, and the children begin to use geometry and algebra to solve everyday problems. By using Maths in the context of an overall story; for example, historic changes in population or the geometry of a bridge, we inspire children to be involved with the world around them through Maths.

Children continue with Mathematics as part of the curriculum through to age 16 when every pupil takes at least one IGCSE in Maths; universities require Maths at this level as a basic entry requirement.

Children who receive top IGCSE grades and wish to study subjects such as Engineering, Medicine, Economics and Physics usually take A Level Maths; children with a particular passion for Mathematics can also take Further Maths at A Level.



Sciences: Experimentation and observation are at the heart of learning Science. Whether in Biology, Chemistry or Physics, learning through experimentation is fundamental. At King's, we have everything children need to learn by doing – whether using batteries and wires to create circuits in Primary school or working in one of the purpose-built laboratories in Secondary school to investigate bonding and intermolecular forces.

Children in Primary school start Science by simply looking at and then drawing and writing about the things that they find. As they move into Secondary school, sophisticated laboratories provide the older children with the equipment they need to investigate the world around them in a more rigorous, scientific way. From investigating atomic structures and the periodic table in Chemistry to designing an experiment to compare the viscosities of two liquids in Physics.

We know that studying Science requires discipline – but the rewards are not only fun, they can be life-changing and set future agendas. The best discoveries come from people who are inspired by great teachers, to become passionate about Science, innovation and discovery. By nurturing curiosity, we encourage a love of Science resulting in a large percentage of our students going on to study Science or Engineering at university.



“At King's, we help pupils understand the world around them through scientific discovery. Using microscopes, pupils can start to view the minutest detail of that world, affording them the tools for later life, to then make their impact upon it.”

Science Teacher and Year 10 Leader





Humanities and Social Sciences: A key part of a balanced education, creating thoughtful and active citizens of the future. We start early by encouraging children to develop their own ideas through History, Religious Education and Philosophy. These subjects help children to analyse and evaluate information as well as develop their own way of seeing the world.

The Humanities give us an understanding of the political and cultural context of the world. Building on the foundations of Literacy and Numeracy, the study of History, the Arts and Philosophy give pupils the tools to apply critical and analytical thinking to all aspects of their education.

In Primary school, children may study rivers and how cities develop. In Secondary school, the children would learn about the Industrial Revolution, how children lived in that era and then consider how Europe changed from an agrarian society to a city-based industrial society. As the children progress through Secondary school, the issues and debates get more complex, as pupils start to apply their learning in other subjects, such as Maths and Science, to Humanities and the Social Sciences. Every year we send pupils to university where they build upon what they have learned at King's College.



"We have a responsibility to prepare our students for higher education and entering the workplace. We do this, not just by helping them to achieve the best grades they can, but by valuing their curiosity, creativity and independence of thought, that will make them successful lifelong learners."

Assistant Head of Secondary

The Arts: An integral part of a broad British education. The creative arts are celebrated in many areas of school life at King’s College. The technical challenges of learning a musical instrument, the courage and confidence needed to perform in Drama and Dance, the intellectual and linguistic expertise used to write poetry and the creative process of painting; all of these activities have an important role to play in your child’s education.

Younger children are encouraged to be creative, no matter how messy and noisy it gets. They learn about colour and shapes by mixing paints and cutting up paper. We encourage them to sing, dance and use role-play in their games. Creativity is fun and helps them to socialise with others.

As they get older, the children take a more structured approach to creativity. For example, Performing Arts helps build their confidence in speaking English and supports their skills in public speaking. In Art, the children experiment with different media including painting, photography and graphic design. This focus on process helps give them a strong foundation upon which to build other creative projects.

Pupils who choose IGCSEs and A Levels in the Arts benefit from a demanding programme, that focuses both on the creative and the technical aspects of Art. For example, Music IGCSE covers performance, music theory and composition. Pupils who enjoy participating in the arts, but do not want to commit to academic study, can join in the many groups and clubs available outside the school day.

Employers increasingly value creativity. Creative thinking is valued in careers in Science and Engineering as much as Journalism, Design or Architecture.

“The study of Art allows pupils not only to express themselves visually but to develop and enhance problem solving skills. Learning to manipulate and control materials and processes enhances perception, focus and academic discipline. Skills learned in Art have a positive impact on the study of all subjects.”

Gifted and Talented Coordinator





Preparation for university: As your children become young adults, study becomes more focused on particular subjects. In Year 11 pupils choose four subjects for the next phase of their studies, A Levels, which begin in Year 12. This decision will influence their choice of degree course at university. We take pride in supporting all our pupils through the exciting choices and the hard work that goes into the last two years at school.

“Having completed my studies at King’s, I gained a full scholarship to continue into Higher Education at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. My time at King’s offered me an enriching education in the British system, with a hands-on approach to learning. The level of support was exemplary, and the best advice I can give to future students is to enjoy everything the school has to offer. The thorough and academic environment at King’s left me well-prepared for all the challenges of university.”

Student, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Part of our academic reputation is built upon the success of our pupils. We are educational experts; we know how to get the very best out of your children. Becoming a young adult at the same time as working hard to learn, these years are hugely important to your child. We challenge and support pupils, so that they are able to achieve their very best academically and personally. We have the expertise to help succeed in their exams and the experience to guide them towards their ideal future university.

Top universities increasingly look at the whole person, not just exam results. We know how to inspire and develop children’s passions and interests outside of the curriculum. We have a team of specialist teachers who keep up-to-date with the different requirements of universities around the world including universities as far away as the USA, Australia and Canada, as well as universities in the UK and Spain. Each year the vast majority of our students enter universities in the U.K, Spain and the rest of Europe.





Outside the Classroom

More than a place of learning, the College nurtures pupils, supports families and reinforces the importance of a balance between work and play.

Sports and Clubs: Traditionally, sport and team play have been an important part of physical development and well-being at British schools. Working hard towards a shared aim gives a sense of achievement. Being part of a team teaches children to understand tactics, cooperation and fair-play. We hope that children at King’s College learn to be chivalrous winners and gracious losers.



Involvement in competitive sport is fun, but the real value is in developing teamwork and working hard physically towards a goal. The health of your child is as important as their intellectual growth and we provide physical education in the curriculum as well as opportunities to play competitive sport after school.

Whether playing games in the Primary school playground, or being part of the Secondary sports team, the children benefit from fresh air and physical fitness. There are many school clubs outside the curriculum that provide opportunities for pupils to be stimulated in different ways. From chess, Chinese and the debating society, to judo, hip hop dance, and rock climbing, there is something available regardless of your child’s interests.

We invest in first-class sporting facilities, and utilise other specialist facilities in the local community to provide the best possible opportunities for our pupils to excel in many sports. Our sports provision is all inclusive through our inter-house competitions and participation in inter-school events, resulting in many team and individual successes.

Sport activities include:

- Ballet
- Judo
- Football (Boys & Girls)
- Basketball
- Modern Dance
- Spanish Dance
- Badminton
- Table Tennis
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Self-Defence
- Scuba-Diving
- Rock Climbing
- Water Sports
- Yoga

Other clubs include:

- Chess
- Football
- Science Club
- Film Club
- Basketball
- Street Art
- Chinese
- German
- Drama

Our facilities include:

- Sports Hall
- Multi-Purpose Hall
- Astro-Turf Pitch
- Multi-sports surface
- Tennis courts
- Gymnasium





“In King’s, we provide a warm, friendly, happy and stimulating environment for all our children. Learning English is fun and pupils make progress quickly. I love working with my colleagues to ensure every child has a positive experience and a happy start to school life.”

Year 1 Teacher

Happy children become successful adults

Caring for your children: We expect pupils to contribute to a positive, friendly and supportive atmosphere at school and require them to demonstrate respect for adults and other pupils. In turn, we will show them respect as young learners and help them with any difficulties that they may encounter. From the very small children who come to school on a bus, to older children who join the College at IGCSE or A Level, it is important that every child feels safe and welcome.



From Home to a House

From the day a child starts at King’s, they are assigned to one of the four Houses. The older House members support the younger or new pupils. There are events and projects that involve friendly competition between the Houses, which builds bonds across the school years.

Making a mentor

Mentors are older pupils who are available to help younger pupils with new concepts and to help peers who are having difficulty in a particular class or subject. Teaching others helps the mentor to consolidate their learning, while helping the other pupils in their studies.

Who to contact

For children in Primary school, the class teacher provides help and advice about academic and social development. In Secondary school, children are assigned a tutor who is responsible for academic and social welfare for a particular class. When children have to make academic choices at IGCSE, A Level and for university entrance, they get individual support and advice from our very experienced university entrance team. The Leadership Group are also available to discuss with you and advise you and your child on any problems or questions that you may have.

The College community: Parents are an important part of life at King's College Alicante. As well as meeting teachers every term to discuss your child's academic and social progress, you will also be invited to a wide range of social events. These include concerts, plays, sports days and information meetings. Parents can meet one another, make new friends and talk to teachers. We also provide many workshops on Saturday mornings and in the afternoons, giving parents the opportunity to learn first hand about the academic and pastoral provision we offer. This also includes expert guest speakers from our partnerships and outside agencies. When your child starts at King's College, your whole family join the King's College community.

Events & Enjoyment

At King's, we believe that school events and trips are vitally important in the all-round education of our pupils. Parents are active participants, helping to strengthen our sense of community. Sports days, concerts, stage productions and prize-giving ceremonies are complemented with coffee mornings, parent classes, open days and staff meetings.

"The teachers are very kind, they help you if you have difficult problems. I love Secondary school, I am learning so much."

Year 7 pupil

Charity begins at home

We are proud of the effort that the whole school puts into raising money for charity. Every year we raise thousands of Euros for various good causes. We are even more proud of the contribution that our pupils make once they have grown up. Whether through fundraising, World Challenge, voluntary work or individual projects, King's College alumni continue to think of others and the wider world throughout their lives.



A photograph of a classroom scene. In the foreground, the back of a student with long, straight brown hair is visible. She is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt and has her right arm raised, pointing her index finger upwards. In the background, other students are seated at desks, some also with their hands raised. A teacher is visible in the background, looking towards the students. The classroom has a wooden wall with a green exit sign and a blue poster with the number '50' on the left. The lighting is bright and even.

Teaching

Our teachers are passionate about their subjects and about education. Their expertise is what makes King's College so successful.



Primary School: Education in the early years makes a tremendous contribution to a child’s future and that is why our Primary school teachers are highly trained professionals. We attract and retain teachers who are passionate about their work. The Primary school years provide the foundation for all children’s later learning. This is true for social and physical development as much as academic progress.

Academic success comes as a result of the passion that our teachers transmit to our pupils and the particular attention we give to encouraging individual achievement.

“There were several reasons I chose King’s College Alicante for my children. English has been an essential element in my own career, and I wanted my children to be able to become bilingual. But more than this, a British education also offers the gateway into the current global world. This in itself poses challenges that require learning without borders, and King’s helps prepare my children to enter that world.”

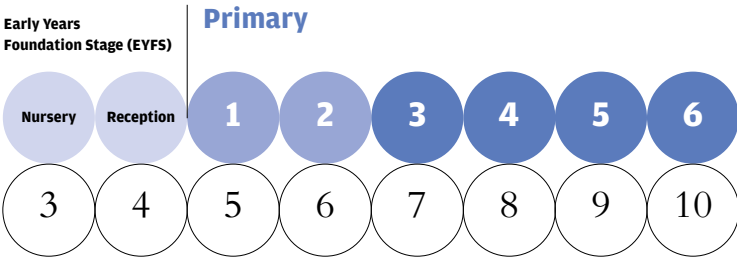
Parent of 2 children in King’s Primary school



“My daughter loves her school. I wish I had gone to school with such enthusiasm”.

Parent of a Year 7 child

Pupil’s age in the January of the school year



Secondary School: As your children get older, lessons become more demanding and the children begin to focus on their preferred subjects. The greatest advantage we can give your child is a true love of learning. That may seem simplistic, but we know that your child’s future depends on learning new skills and becoming independent life-long learners.



“At King’s, our main focus is academic achievement, although we also believe that a British education offers more than that. We aim to nurture a generation of successful young adults, with an interest in the world in which they live, and who contribute positively to it when they leave our school.”

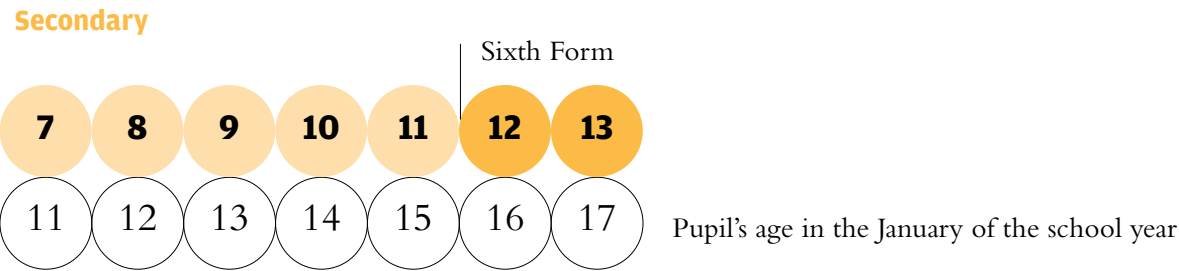
Head of Secondary

“At King’s the children get the best of British and Spanish and can use that education to go to university in Spain, the UK or anywhere.”

Parent of a Year 9 child

“After an initial visit to King’s College Alicante, I was impressed by the facilities on offer and the broad curriculum, and I had no hesitation enrolling my daughter for Sixth Form. The staff have been superb in assisting her transition from the Spanish education system into the English system, and she has been offered all the help she needed to successfully continue her studies.”

Parent of a Year 12 pupil





Admissions King's College Alicante is more than just a British school. Your child's future success depends on building a strong partnership with shared values between home and school. If you want your child to benefit from a King's College education then the next step is to come to visit the school, have a look at what we are doing and ask us lots of questions.



"Both of our children attended King's College Alicante. We found the whole school to be warm, welcoming and a joyous place for our children to be educated. Staff are attentive and caring, and the school itself is modern and disciplined; allowing our children's education to flourish. We would recommend the school to anyone and everyone, it is an excellent place for your child to learn, develop and excel."

Parents of former King's pupils

"The best way to describe what King's offers its pupils is by telling you our daughter's story. She started at school without knowing a single word of English and 12 years later, she was invited to an interview at the University of Cambridge, one of the top ten universities in the world."

Parent of former Year 13 student

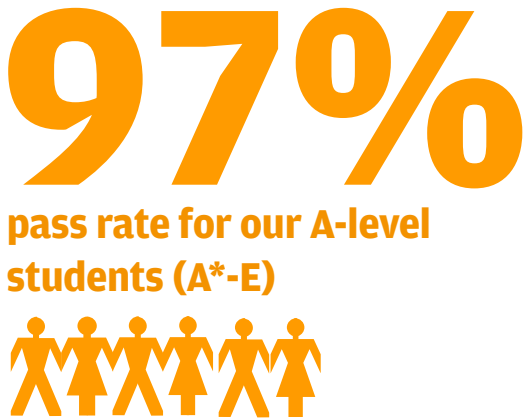
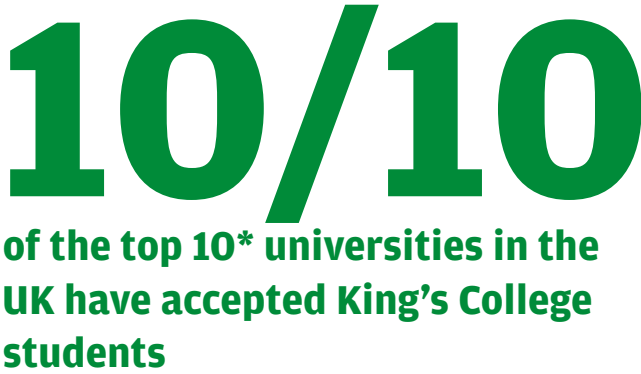
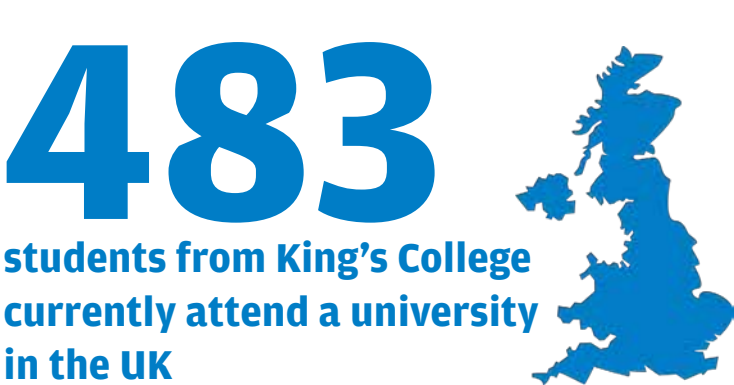
"Going to a new school is a very important step for your child. My aim is to make the process as smooth as possible. It is so gratifying to see new pupils enjoying their new school from the very first day."

Admissions Officer

University destinations Pupils from King’s College are ambitious. At school they learn to love learning, they love communicating and they love being challenged academically. Most of our pupils go to university in the UK and others decide to study at university in Spain. Our pupils regularly win places on the most demanding and challenging courses at the best universities in the world. Our team of experts make sure pupils understand all the options available to them. We support and advise them through the whole university application process.

Examples of the universities King’s College has sent students to in the past few years.

Arts	Business	Engineering	Humanities	Science
University College London	Cambridge	University College London	Oxford	Manchester
Nottingham	Harvard University	Cambridge	York	Cambridge
Duke University	Warwick	Nottingham	Sheffield	Imperial College London
Yale	Durham	York	Manchester	Nottingham
U. California, Berkeley	Michigan	Imperial College London	Birmingham	Southampton
Warwick	York	Leeds	Queen Mary London	Liverpool
Edinburgh		Exeter	Leeds	York
		Leeds	Nottingham	St. Andrew’s
		Queen Mary London	Exeter	Edinburgh
		Oxford	Edinburgh	Boston University
		Sheffield	St. Andrew’s	
		Durham	New York University	
		Edinburgh		



*Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2018-2019

** 24 top UK universities



King's College
The British School of Alicante

Glorieta del Reino Unido 5
Alicante 03008
Spain

Contact

Admissions and General Enquiries

 (+34) 965 106 351

 info.kca@kingsgroup.org

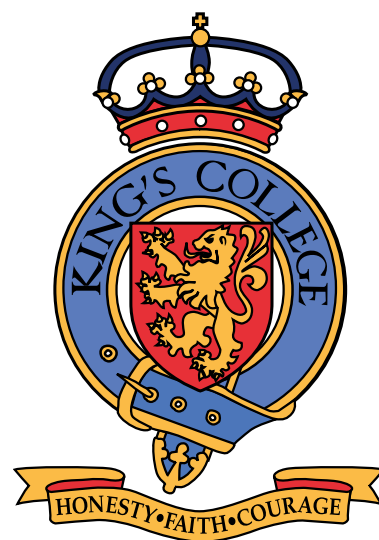
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King's College The British School of Alicante undergoes regular external inspections as a British School Overseas and is accredited by the UK Government and Department for Education (DfE). DfE Registration Number: 000/6364